TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia
ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

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ARMY BEING CUT AGAIN

It is reliably reported that present defense plans call for the whittling of the army from seventeen to fourteen divisions within the next eighteen months. This is a continuation of a process which began some years ago.

Nevertheless there are those who have expressed genuine concern because of the rapidly-dwindling strength of the U. S. Army. These critics believe that the Army, when it is down to fourteen divisions, will not be strong enough to play the role it may be called upon to play in brushfire wars which may develop anywhere in the world.

It is ironical that the army — President Eisenhower's own service — is continuing to be cut more severely than the Air Force or the Navy. In the planning for future expenditures the Army — in fiscal 1959 — fares worse than either the Air Force or the Navy. There is some indication that Congress may not go along with the severity of the cuts planned for the Army, and recently, as if to lend weight to this possibility, a House committee gave the Army $10,000,000 more than was requested for it by the Administration.

While we do not pose as military experts, it seems quite obvious that chances are greater for a brush-fire war than for an all-out world war in the next eighteen months. In fact, even the Gaither Committee went on record as believing that the most crucial period for the United States, as far as its security was concerned, would begin late in 1959. Therefore, the indications are that trouble between now and late 1959 would probably be in the nature of a brush-fire war.

This being the case, it would seem prudent not to whittle the army to such an extent that it will not be able to keep the peace, and carry a big stick, so to speak, in outlying areas of the world, and in areas where Communism and the free world are currently contesting for control, or allies.

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CLAIRE CHENNAULT

Doctors recently told 67-year-old Claire Chennault, hero of China's long struggle against Japan in World War II, that he had cancer of the lungs. This probably means that he faces a short lifespan, from here on out.

Every citizen of the United States, and of the free world, will regret this development. Democracy owes a debt to Claire Chennault, for it was in 1937 that he went to China, to help Chiang Kai-Shek organize an air force for China.

A month after he had arrived in China, the Japanese struck and Chennault worked busily and effectively to organize a defending air force for the Nationalist Chinese. He has been in the Far East ever since, and that is more than twenty years.

In 1941 Chennault came to Washington and suggested that the United States government allow a group of American volunteers to fly for Kai-Shek. Washington approved, and it was not long before the Flying Tigers were giving the Japanese Army Air Force fits.

When the United States entered the war, and took over the Flying Tigers, and the Army Air Forces entered the China - Burma theater in limited strength, Chennault became the Air Force commander in that aera of the war. His fighters, and other aircraft, gained control of the skies, and were a vital factor in securing victory in Asia.

No matter what else Chennault did, those eight years are enough to make him an American hero who will always be remembered. When the moment in history came for him to play his part, he played the role, and did the job well, and served his country and humanity with distinction and courage.

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ON BUSINESS LUNCHES

Uncle Sam has declared that the expense-account businessman, who for many years now has been enjoying eating out, and charging the cost to business expense, will be limited to some degree this year. The limitation consists of a new rule that the businessman cannot buy himself lunch, even while entertaining a guest, while in his home town.

As soon as this announcement was made, all sorts of questions were raised about one's home town. Could a businessman, for example, drive five or ten miles to the nearest municipality, perhaps in the same greater metropolitan area, and charge it all to the expense account in the community?

Uncle Sam says "No." Moreover, Uncle Sam says that businessmen on trips must be on overnight trips or their expense accounts might be rejected. All in all, taken with the announcement by Uncle Sam that expense accounts would have to be justified in more detail next year (covering this year's expenditures) it seems that the expense account money is taking it on the chin.

Ever since the high tax rates have been in effect, for some fifteen years now, the United States economy has drifted toward an economy of the expense account executive. Apartments, automobiles, and all sorts of things were bought on expense accounts. This was a way, perhaps, of circumventing income taxes and some of the restaurant and nightclub money in the larger cities might be traced to the expense account. It became an artificial situation, and made things pretty terrible for the ordinary citizen without an expense account, trying to compete with the expense-account gentry. While we do not always agree with the tax man, there may be some common sense in calling for more justification of some expense account items.

* * * * * * * * * * *

The Europeans may be behind the United States in many things, but one field in which they lead us is in the realm of balanced family life. That may be partly because there are not as many distractions and diversions and less per capita wealth.

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You can look back to 1957, but we prefer to look forward to 1959.

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One great need of this country is for some new jokes.

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Washington Notes

HIGHWAY FUND CURB

Louis S. Rothchild, Under Secretary of Commerce for Transportation, has recommended that trust fund appropriations for regular Federal-aid highways be held to $900,000,000 annually, beginning in fiscal year 1961.

The trust fund is created from revenues on gasoline, lubricants, tires and tubes and other items, and is earmarked exclusively for highway work, including the interstate system.

AIR FORCE PICKS RCA

The Air Force has chosen the Radio Corporation of American as contractor for a system to detect enemy ballistic missiles.

Eventual cost of the system is estimated at $721,000,000.

The system will make use of newly developed radar that can "see" for 3,000 miles. It would include at least three detection centers—one or more of them out of this country.

STIFFER LAW BACKED

The Senate Finance Committee recently approved a bill to impose tough penalties on employers who fail to pay the Government the income and social security taxes they withhold from their employees.

U. S. — S. S. S. R. EXCHANGE

Agreements for expanded cultural, technical and scientific exchanges have been worked out in negotiations since Oct. 28 between United States Ambassador William S. B. Lacy and Soviet Ambassador Georgi N. Zaroubin

But Moscow has not yet given Mr. Zaroubin authorization to sign, and the State Department is awaiting the approval that would go far toward breaking down the Iron Curtain.

NEW FARM PROPOSALS

A new formula for farm-price supports has been proposed by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The farm organization has recommended that beginning in 1959 price supports for cotton and corn be set at 90 per cent of the average market prices for the three years preceding the crop year concerned. The averages would be adjusted for grade and quality differentials.

YEAST IN TEST SATELLITES

The United States will put a small amount of yeast in its test satellites to determine the effect of space travel on a simple form of life.

Biological experts said the yeast experiment might be able to provide information on the reaction of life to the gravity-free state existing in space travel as well as to the cosmic rays encountered in space.

JOBLESS TOTAL UP

The nation's unemployment total jumped in December to 3,374,000, the highest for that month since the recession of 1949, said a joint report by the Commerce Department and the Labor Department, in Washington. The total was 5.2 per cent of the total labor force.

CIVIL SERVICE BIRTHDAY

The Civil Service Commission recently marked its seventy-fifth birthday with an employee awards ceremony.

The Civil Service system came into being under a law signed on January 16, 1883, by President Chester A. Arthur.

At first the law covered only a handful of Federal employees—ten per cent of the total. Today, 86 per cent of all Federal employees, or about 2,000,000 are covered.

NSF GRANTS

The National Science Foundation is accepting applications for four fellowship programs totaling about 1,000 awards. Final selection of fellows for the 1958-59 programs will be made by the Foundation and announced March 18 and 20.

LANDSCAPE SHORT COURSE PLANNED AT VPI

Highway engineers, park superintendents, and others interested will gather at VPI March 5-7 for the 1958 landscape short course.

A discussion on research needs in erosion control and landscaping is first on the program, and will be followed throughout the short course by subjects relating to other landscaping problems. Weed and nematode control, stabilizing slopes, turf management, highways and soil conservation, all will be discussed.

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Man's Brush-off Costly

Indianapolis, Ind.- A passer-by stopped 74-year-old Dominick Turchi to "brush that speck of dirt off your coat." After the man left, Turchi discoved $200 was missing from his pocket.

He Gets The Facts Fast

Tucson, Ariz.- Policeman Greene quickly got the facts he went to investigate a complaint that a small do quently nipped her leg. As ped from the patrol car, dog charged viciously and on the leg.

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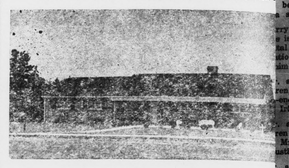

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onewall

onewall, Feb. 10.- My, my, I surely be glad to see some ly weather again. It has been a cold year so far. Let's all hope it will soon be warmer.

rry to say that Mrs. Lester has been sick for over a with pneumonia. Glad she is better, and we all hope for speedy recovery.

rry to know that Mr. Herbert is sick. He is in a Lynchburg and is improving from an on he had last week. We wish him a speedy recovery.

, and Mrs. Bob Wheeler and , of Richmond, spent the with his parents, Mr. and Wheeler.

, and Mrs. Tilden Lee and spent Sunday with her parand Mrs. Wash Wheeler, sburg.

, and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard visited her mother, Mrs. T. M. on last Tuesday evening. , and Mrs. Pete Dickerson and

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son, Fred, of Spout Spring, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Caldwell on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Startton visited Mr. Aubrey Stratton, who is on the sick list in Richmond. He is at the home of his sister, Mrs. Howard Elder. Am glad to hear that he is better, and we do hope for him a speedy get well. I know all of his kinfolk around here will be glad to hear that he is better.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beard and Lawrence visited their parents Sunday.

The Rev. and Mrs. Colie Rock expect to take their son, Mike, to the hospital in Lynchburg next Friday to have his tonsils removed. We wish for this fine little boy a speedy get well.

Mr. Chesley Christian, of Appomattox spent the week-end with his aunt, Mrs. Parke Jennings and her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Braford and children spent the week-end with his parents at Natural Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis Smith and son, of Lynchburg, and Mr. Jessie Davidson visited Mrs. Lester Carson on Saturday.

The members of Trinity and Bethel Churches are glad to hear that their pastor, the Rev. Aaron Smith will return home this week from a tour of Cuba.

I want to congratulate another one of our fine young ladies, Miss Winnie Lee, for winning a scholarship in a better home life contest. We wish for her much success in the next try. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tilden Lee, of Hebron community. We are very proud of her and wish her much success.

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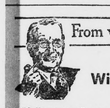

From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Windy's "Sleep Machine"

"Call me lazy," says Windy Taylor, "but it's folks like me who are responsible for progress. Come see my latest invention."

Windy's latest consists of an old alarm clock, some door springs, a car battery—all wired up to the hopper of his cattle-feeder.

When the alarm goes off it closes a circuit—opening the chute and sending feed into the manger automatically. The clock's set at 12, so the cattle get fed midnight and noon while Windy sleeps (he takes a midday nap). They look fat and contented ... and so does he.

From where I sit, I wouldn't call Windy "lazy." Far from it. It's just that he looks at things from every possible angle—and it seems to do him good. Windy keeps an open mind on *all* subjects. If you prefer buttermilk to, say, a glass of beer, he's not the type to "invest" ways of forcing his choice on you.

Joe Marsh

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Vera

Vera, Feb. 10.- "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." -Cor. 15-58.

February certainly has brought us old time winter. And if the ground hog is weather-wise, the old saying is that we will have more cold weather.

Miss Gail Webb spent the week-end in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey.

We are sorry to hear of the continuing illness of Mrs. Alice Grow. We do hope for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey on Saturday.

We are glad to hear that Mr. Reuben Bryant is better. He has been sick for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey and Harriette visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson on Saturday night.

Mr. T. C. Harvey and son took a truck load of beef cattle to Roanoke on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carson visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey on Sunday. They also visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Reynolds.

Miss Harriette Harvey visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ed Woodson on Sunday.

About The Home

By Frances Dell

Indoor plants become more important than ever to us this time of year. It is well to remember that anyone can have an indoor garden. You do not need a large check book nor a solarium.

The choice of plants is important. A combination of scapes, shades, and size makes the most interesting kind of display. A nice group can be bought for as little as $25.-00. Philodendron still reigns as the supreme house plant. Clinging to bark or poles, dangling or just hanging gracefully, this foliage plant remains the hardiest. Other possibilities are bark - climbing plants like pothos or nephythytis. These start at about $10.00.

Flowering plants are beautiful when they are in full bloom, but do not last as long as foliage ones. If flowers are a must, try begonias or geraniums. If they are placed where no draft reaches them and a warm temperature is maintained, they will probably bloom.

Greenhouse plants cannot stand direct exposure to the sun. If your home has a southern exposure, the plants should be placed anywhere but in the window. They thrive on artificial light. Window glass magnifies the heat of the sun and burns holes in the leaves. However, if the plants must be placed near the window, curtains and venetian blinds cut down the rays of the sun. The plants should never be placed over heat or against a cold glass, or in any kind of draft.

Most plant-lovers tend to overwater plants. A good test is to poke a finger one inch into the soil to test for dryness. If the soil is damp enough for a bit of it to cling under the nail, no water is needed.

The leaves or ornamental foliage plants must be kept clean. Try wiping the leaves with a damp sponge or soft dry cloth every few weeks. This will keep the pores clean to allow breathing. Be very careful about using any substitute to make the leaves shine. All dead leaves should be removed periodically to make room for new sprouts.

FARM NEWS

By J. A. Smith, County Agent

Nitrogen Content Studied In Leaf

Nitrogen content of the fertilizer needed for tobacco following lespedeza seems to be determined largely by the denseness and amount of growth of the lespedeza stand, results to date at VPI Agricultural Experiment Station have shown.

Tobacco following a good stand and growth of lepedeza will need only 10 to 20 pounds of nitrogen per acre, while tobacco following a poor stand and growth of lespedeza will need 30 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

Nitrogen needs for tobacco in a three-year rotation (in which tobacco follows corn planted after lespedeza) appear to be 30 to 35 pounds per acre for best results. Increase in potash above 80 pounds per acre as K2O showed no significant acre-value increases in either rotation.

Root-rot troubles were more noticeable in the two-year rotation than in the three-year rotation. There was no evidence that any particular nitrogen or potash rate favored the incidence of root-rot or meadow nematodes.

In the three-year rotation, Dixie Bright 214 produced significantly better acre-value returns than Vesta 5, while Vesta 5 gave much better returns than Dixie Bright 101. This was generally true, no matter what nitrogen and potash rates were used, thus showing that tolerance to root-rot and meadow nematode of these black-shank resistant varieties is in the order named.

The test began in 1953 at plots near Chatham, and aimed at: (1) determining the effects of several fertilizers varying in nitrogen and potash content on yield, quality, and acre-value of fine-cured tobacco when grown in two and three-year rotations including lespedeza; and (2) studying the incidence and effects of such diseases as black-root-rot and meadow nematode on the tobacco crop produced with each fertilizer treatment and rotation.

In the two-year rotation, tobacco follows lespedeza immediately. In the three-year rotation, tobacco follows corn planted after lespedeza.

Record-Keeping Vital In Modern Farming

The farmer who keeps careless records, or no records at all, may be pushed out of the picture in today's high-gear farm business.

The Virginia Farm Record Book, Bulletin 220, is available from the county agent's office. It contains forms to help you keep records of expenses and receipts on various farm enterprises as well as on the entire farming operation. A record of this type is a valuable aid in analyzing your farm's past performances and in making plans for the future.

As a test for your present system of farm records, see if they can give you answers to questions such as these:

Which enterprises were profitable last year and which ones were not?

Has this pattern been constant over a period of years, or was it caused by some unusual factor such as price, weather, or government programs?

Will it be possible to expand the more profitable enterprises in the future and cut back on those that are less profitable?

Can inputs which have risen less in cost in recent years be substituted for those which have grown more expensive, such as substituting fertiliser for labor and land?

Performance Data On Six Fire-Cured Tobacco Varieties

Variety evaluation of six varieties of fire-cured tobacco were conducted in five counties in 1957. Varieties used in test were: Brown Leaf, Walkers Broad Leaf, Lizard Tail Orinoco, Hastings, Virginia 312 (root-rot resistant), and Va. 6331 (black-shank resistant).

Results of 1957 test given in pounds and dollars per acre: Virginia 312, 1794, $881.00; Brood Leaf, 1632, $858.00; Walkers Broad Leaf, 1558, $795.00; Lizard Tail Orinoco, 1512, $743.00; Hastings, 1532, $706.00; Virginia 6331, 1524, $729.00.

Varieties being recommended for 1958 are: Walkers Broad Leaf, Brown Leaf, Lizard Tail Orinoco, Hastings and Virginia 312 (on soils where root-rot is a problem).

U. S. awite Soviet reply on exchange pacts.

Brucker warns that Soviet plans limited wars.

Deal reported to settle Guatamalan Presidency.

Baghdad Pact members look to U. S. for support.

U. N. Council votes to tighten control for Jerusalem.

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